17
【じゅうなな】
1
桜井まちこ
Sakurai Machiko

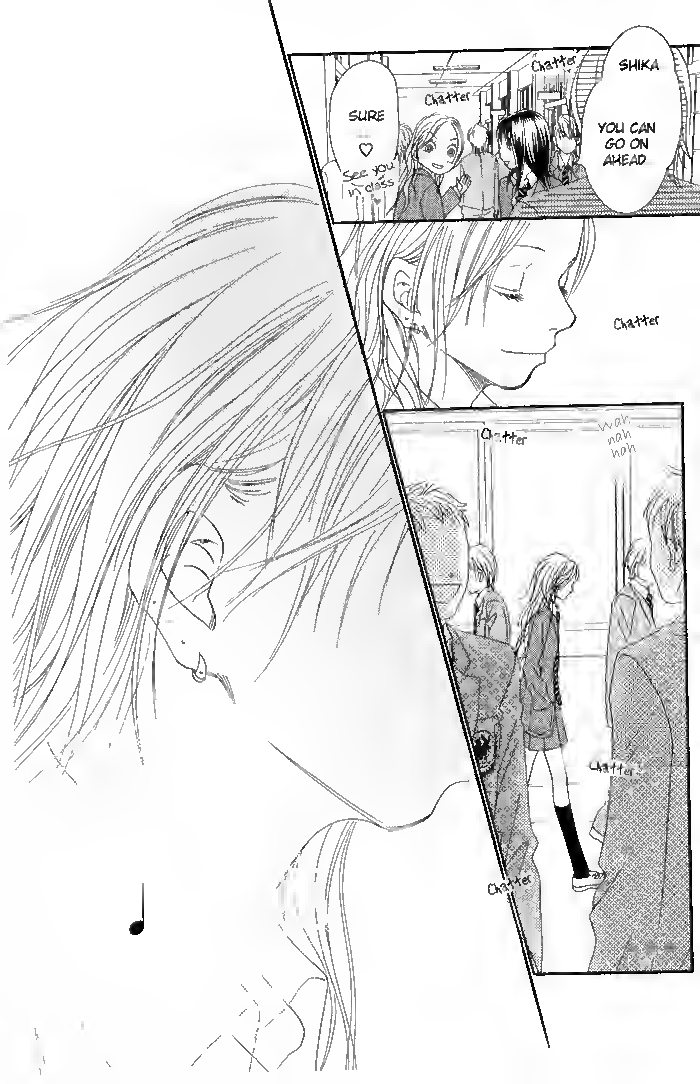
Scene 1

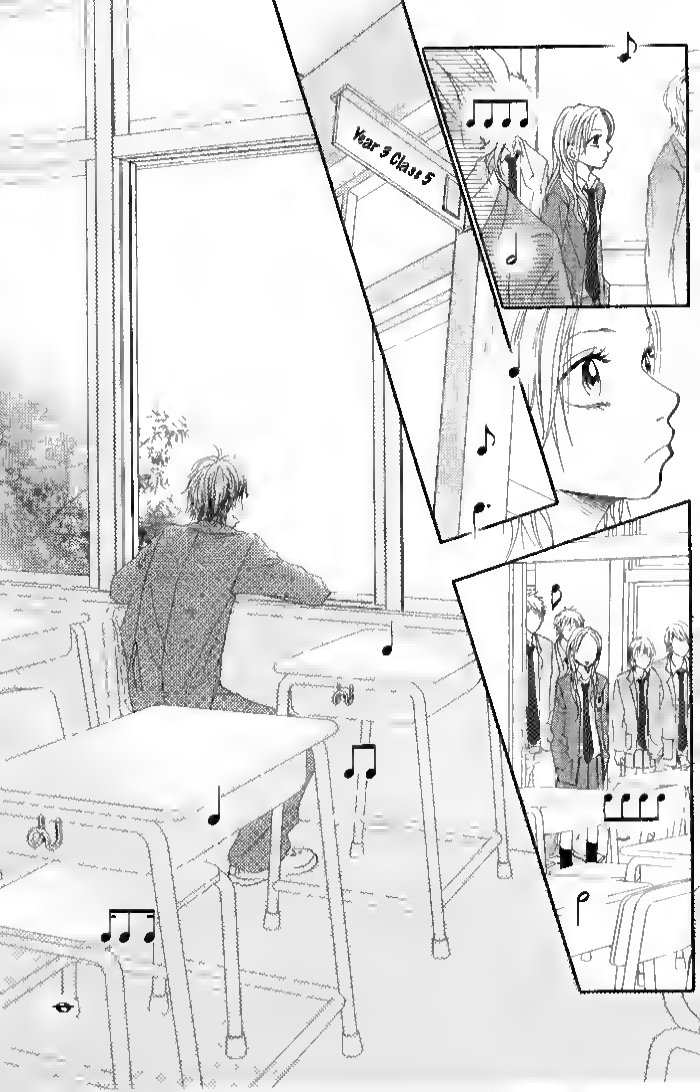
始業式
AND THAT ENDS, THE OPENING CEREMONY.
Mutter
Mutter
Mutter
Mutter
THE THIRD YEARS MAY EXIT
AKIRA!
Yasahi
AWESOME!
WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS!!
So happy!
IT WON'T BE LONELY IF I HAVE A FRIEND IN THE CLASS!
Gwa!
WAIT
WAIT, LET ME GO...
That hurts

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
ISN'T YOUR BOYFRIEND IN THE SAME CLASS?
Let me GO!
EH?
AHH
SHIIKA.
YOU LEFT THIS NOTEBOOK AT MY HOUSE.
How many times have you done this?
BE MORE RESPONSIBLE

YUUSUKE, WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN
Please take care of me.
OH
AH
IS THIS HIM? YOUR BOY-FRIEND?
HI. MY NAME'S KIMOKA
AH
THANKS, YUUSUKE!
EH KAWA-SHIMA AKIRA!?
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK?
What did Shika tell you?
Nice to meet you
HELLO
I'M KAWASHIMA AKIRA
SIMPLE
You don't act like a couple
THAT WAS A REALLY SIMPLE GREETING
HUH?
HE SEEMS COLD. EH?
—WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR SO LONG
AND THE YEAR BEFORE THAT
That's just how it is
BECAUSE WE WERE ALSO IN THE SAME CLASS LAST YEAR

MEGUMI'S ALSO IN OUR CLASS, BUT...
AH, NEVER MIND
they want you!
MEGUMI?
MEGUMI-CHAN IS YOUR FRIEND?
DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT
Serious face
I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING SPECIAL ABOUT IT ANYMORE
Ah, no, no. I didn't mean it like that
HUH?
I'M HAPPY FOR YOU
HEY
DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT LATER?
I is you're not busy
AAH! SORRY!
IT'S YUUSUKE'S BIRTHDAY SO I'M GOING TO GET HIM A PRESENT
sorry
AKIRA! OI!


Chatter
Chatter
SHIKA
YOU CAN GO ON AHEAD
SURE
See you in class
Chatter
Chatter
wah nah nah
Chatter
Chatter


Year 3 Class 5

WHAT'S THAT TUNE?

Chatter
Chatter
IT'S PRETTY
Chatter
IT'S NOT MUCH
It's incredible!
NOT MUCH!?
HOW DO YOU WHISTLE LIKE THAT?
MEGUMI!
UM
AH
EH
IS THIS YOUR CLASS?

HEY AKIRA!
THIS IS YANO SHIIKA
she used to be my classmate.
I didn't think you were THE Megumi-chan
HUH? YANO
WHAT WAS THAT?
MEGUMI RYOUTA
He's in our class
...MEGUMI?
SHIIKA.
HEH.
IT'S A STRANGE NAME, HUH?
SHIIKA.

SHIKA,
HUH?

UWAA!
EVERYONE, SIT DOWN!
So annoying
Quiet down!
WHAT THE HELL!?
THIS IS ALREADY YOUR LAST YEAR, SO ACT LIKE IT!!
Bye
See you
Chatter
Chatter
FILL OUT THESE FORMS
DO YOU THINK YOU'RE STILL KIDS!?
HUH?

YOU...
YOU... ARE REALLY
I WAS SUNBATHING
MEGUMI!
WHY WEREN'T YOU AT THE OPENING CEREMONY!?
HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO GRADUATE!?
You really need to change that attitude of yours
And stop spacing out!
I DON'T NEED YOUR GRATITUDE!
SENSEI
YOU CARE SO MUCH
ARGH! DON'T GIVE ME THAT!
WHAT ARE YOU KIDS? DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF!
SENSEI, WE'LL BE QUIET FOR YOU, SORRY!
PIPE DOWN!
CAREER GUIDANCE SURVEY
Year Class Name
JUST FILL THIS OUT ALREADY.
OR ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE ME A HARD TIME WITH THIS?
CIRCLE YOUR PLAN OF ACTION AFTER GRADUATING
Attend university
Find a job
Other

WE ALREADY ANSWERED THIS BEFORE!
WHY DO THEY KEEP BOTHERING US WITH IT?
EVERY TIME IT'S THE SAME THING
I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO DO
Sigh
YUUSUKE
Throw

MEGUMI.
DO YOU WANT TO GO SHOPPING LATER?
HM?
SHIIKA CAN'T ACCOMPANY ME BECAUSE SHE NEEDS TO BUY A BIRTHDAY PRESENT
So I'm asking you.
OH, RIGHT.
YOU DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND TO GO WITH YOU.
.....

I DON'T NEED A BOYFRIEND!
HEY
Wait
ARE YOU LISTENING?
WHY IS YOUR FACE SO SERIOUS?
I'M TRYING TO THINK ABOUT MY FUTURE
But it's a bit difficult
EH?
That's what you always say
YOUR FUTURE? I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO PURSUE BASEBALL?
I GAVE IT SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT
WOULD I BE HAPPY WITH THAT?
EH?
tick tock tick tock tick tock
SHOULDN'T I LOOK FOR A JOB?
AND GOING TO A UNIVERSITY MIGHT BE POINTLESS
AH
UM
SO, A JOB? A JOB IS IT?
BUT WOULDN'T IT GIVE ME MORE OF AN ADVANTAGE IF I WENT TO A UNIVERSITY FIRST?
WAH.
tick tock tick tock tick tock tick tock tick tock tick tock tick tock tick tock

HOLD ON! I NEED TO CATCH UP WITH YOUR THOUGHTS..
CATCH UP?
I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT WE SHOULD GO AND GET YOUR PRESENT LATER ♡
PRESENT?
SO CAN YOU NSWER ME FIRST BEFORE THINKING AGAIN?
AH— ABOUT THAT
NOT AGAIN
I HAVE CLUB PRACTICE TODAY.
OH
...HUH?
ANYWAY WE WENT OUT FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY, CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S
SO IT'S NO BIG DEAL

What is it?
We went out for the summer.
Did we...
WHY DON'T YOU THINK ABOUT FILLING OUT THE GUIDANCE FORM INSTEAD?
GOING OUT ALL THE TIME IS ALSO DIFFICULT
IT'S EXPENSIVE
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING SOME-WHERE?
What happened?
I ALREADY ASKED MEGUMI TO COME WITH ME
AH, YEAH.
I'm going with her
WAS THAT YOUR BOYFRIEND?
YEAH. WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR FOUR YEARS NOW
Haha!
THAT'S GREAT!
Pretty cool

I THINK I WAS DISTURBING HIM JUST NOW
YEAH?
IS IT TRUE?
EH?
YOUR BOYFRIEND?
AH
UM.
IT'S NOTHING
THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR.
SHIKA.
CAN I BORROW SOME MASCARA?
SURE
HEH, HEH, HEH.

HUH!?
YOU TURNED YOUR GIRLFRIEND DOWN ON YOUR BIRTHDAY!?
Eh? Ah.
IT'S JUST A BIRTHDAY
No way!
WHAT KIND OF BOYFRIEND WOULD DO THAT?
The worst!
Why did you have to hurt?
HUH?
I'M ALWAYS SPENDING TIME WITH SHIIKA
AH, DIDN'T I SEE HER HANGING OUT WITH SOMEONE ELSE?
IT WAS MEGUMI

AH
EH MEGUMI?
MEGUMI REALLY!?
EH, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING? DO YOU WANT TO GET BEATEN UP!?
Be careful
WE NEED TO STAY CALM.
HA? WHAT'S WITH THAT EXPRESSION
Heehee
You look like a girl
OI, OI IS YUUSUKE GETTING JEALOUS?
NOOO!! TO THE RIGHT! RIGHT, RIGHT, RIGHT!
IT'S OK! YOU'LL GET IT THIS TIME!

SLIP
UGHHH
No Way!
Bang!
Bang!
Bang!
SHINE
SHINE
SHINE
SHINE
MEGUMI IS A LOT OF FUN!
OH! I'LL COME WITH
What are they thinking?
I'M JUST GOING TO GO TO THE TOILET
RIGHT?
HE'S REALLY DIFFERENT FROM ALL THE OTHER GUYS IN OUR CLASS
I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMEONE SO DETERMINED TO WIN THAT GAME!
.....

ISN'T HE CLEVER?
WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS LAST YEAR, BUT I COULDN'T GET MY FEELINGS ACROSS EVEN ONCE.
HM?
I'M GOING TO DO IT THIS YEAR.
MEGUMI
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO DO IT THIS TIME.
WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN THIS YEAR
IT MAKES ME MAD THAT HE PRETENDS NOT TO NOTICE
FOR ME IT'S BECOME SOMETHING I REALLY MUST DO!

I SEE IF THAT'S THE CASE
My heart's beating so fast
There!!
YEAH, THAT FEELING YOU HAVE
IT'S NICE TO HAVE
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ON ABOUT!?
That's why I'm SOMEONE WHO CUTS YOU NO SLACK
EH!?
WAH!
BUT IT'S

HMM...
AH DON'T YOU FEEL THAT WAY ANYMORE?
I GUESS FOUR YEARS IS A LONG TIME BUT-
SHIIKA!
MEGUMI!?
D o i n g
I GOT IT!
SLEEP SHEEP

NO WAY! HOW'D YOU DO THAT!?
That's really cool!
You keep it!
AH HAH HAH HAH
Uwah!
SERIOUSLY!? THANK YOU SO MUCH! HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND? I'LL PAY!
NAH, IT'S FINE
SEEING A SMILE IS ENOUGH ♡
What should we do next?
How about returning it to the store?
Sure.
Hehe
Ste

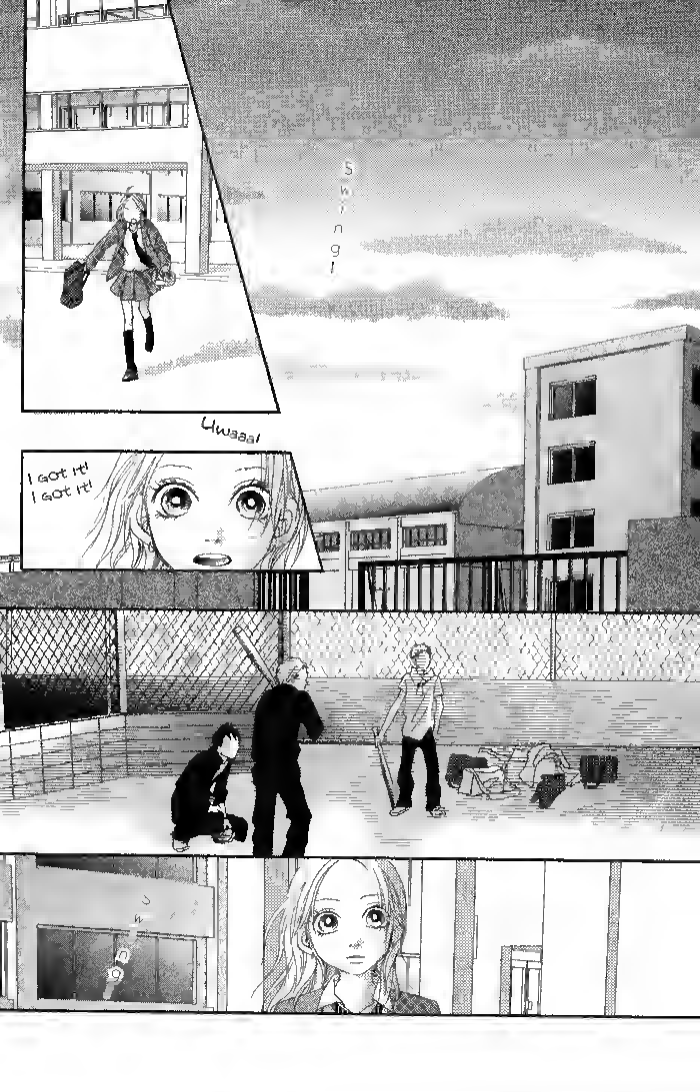
EH!?
...HM?
WHERE'S SHIKA?
HM?
Wait! Mesum!!
Press Press
Please rose.
WAIT HERE AKIRA
SHIKA? YOU OK?
IT'S FINE!
DO YOU WANT ME TO DO IT?
YEAH...
...YUUSUKE LIKES THIS.
Slap
UWA...

Ding!
IT'S MY PRESENT
HEY MEGUMI!
I ENDED UP GETTING A PICTURE WITH JUST ME IN IT!
It turned out so weird!
Sha
Ugu
I JUST WANTED TO CHECK ON SHIIKA!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO LEAVE ME!
What were you thinking leaving me there!?
Cry
in
ng!
Ding!
YOU NEED TO BE CALM
Ding!
YOU IDIOT, DO IT FROM THIS SIDE!
AH
Ding!
AH, NOT AGAIN!
SHIIKA FIGHT!

Tink
THIS IS THE LAST ONE
Uiiii
Stare
CLANG
AH.

YOU GOT IT...
JUST HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND?
CAR
CAR
CAR
YOU DID IT!
SHIIKA!
Hooray!
Hooray!
DO IT QUICKLY!
WHAT? DO WHAT QUICKLY? WHERE IS SHE GOING??
GEEZ, AKIRA, YOU DON'T GET IT!

Kacha
Saving
Sweet Dreams
WHAT?
WHERE IS SHIIKA GOING?
OH ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE THAT AS A PRESENT TO YOUR BOYFRIEND?
Thanks! I'll see you later!
Wait! Why are you just going to leave like that?
Wait..!


Swing!
Uwaaa!
I got it!
I got it!

Plop!
What was that!? He was out!
Safe!
No, way! You're wrong!

SHIIKA?
AH

SORRY, SORRY
I DIDN'T WANT TO INTERRUPT I WAS GOING TO COME BACK LATER BUT...
Ehehe
What is it?
NOT REALLY, YOU'RE NOT INTERRUPTING
OK, HERE!
THIS IS FOR YOU!
OH?
SWEET POP'S
OOH!?
This is great
YEAH IT'S GREAT, ISN'T IT?
I GOT IT FROM THE GAME CENTER.
MEGUMI AND AKIRA HELPED ME OUT
GAME CENTER?

ARE YOU REALLY THAT STUPID?
WHY WOULD YOU GO TO A PLACE LIKE THAT?
How much did you spend?
Sigh
YOU SHOULD MAKE BETTER USE OF YOUR TIME
STREET TOES
YOU SHOULD START LISTENING TO

AH...
I-
I AM
SO~
SORRY!
SHII
KA...
I'M SORRY!

Runs
He said something mean again
What happened?
Will she be ok?
Rips
Rips
Rips
Rips
Rips

HOW MUCH MONEY DID I SPEND!?
TO ASK THAT SORT OF THING...

HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND? I'LL PAY!
NAH, IT'S FINE. SEEING A SMILE IS ENOUGH.
Good morning!
Create message
I apologize about the other day I'm sorry
You have exited message editing
Beep
Chatter
Beep!
Beep!
Chatter
The vehicle is now leaving
Sigh
Message inbox
Mail
Messages
Messages
Kaching!

Chatter
Chatter
Beep
Beep
Beep
Sigh
...
...MEGUMI.

I DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD THE SAME ROUTE!
HERE YOU CAN HAVE THIS SEAT!
AH EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE THE GIRL
SORRY IF I'M OFFENDING YOU BUT I'M REALLY SLEEPY.
I'M GOING TO DIE OF EXHAUSTION SOON
I CAN'T EVEN KEEP MY EYES OPEN
THE SUN...
I DON'T LIKE MORNINGS...
IS THIS WHY YOU'RE SO ABSENTMINDED IN CLASS?
THOUGH WE'RE NOT EVEN IN SCHOOL YET, WE'RE STUCK ON THE BUS

THAT WAS QUICK
Beep!
Gulp
Beep!
Beep!
Chatter
Chatter

—HUH—
I THINK WE'RE CLOSE OR NOT
YEAH
SORRY. I WOKE YOU UP.
Chatter
Nah, it's nothing.
THE SENIORS USED TO WAKE ME UP ALL THE TIME WITH SCARY LOOKS
IT'S MUCH BETTER WHEN A FRIEND DOES IT
Chatter
AH, OH YEAH.
YOU WERE REALLY GOOD WITH THAT GAME. RIGHT?
I DON'T FEEL TOO GOOD ABOUT THAT.
I NEVER DROPPED THE CRANE IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
...AH, YOU COMPLIMENTED ME. COOL.

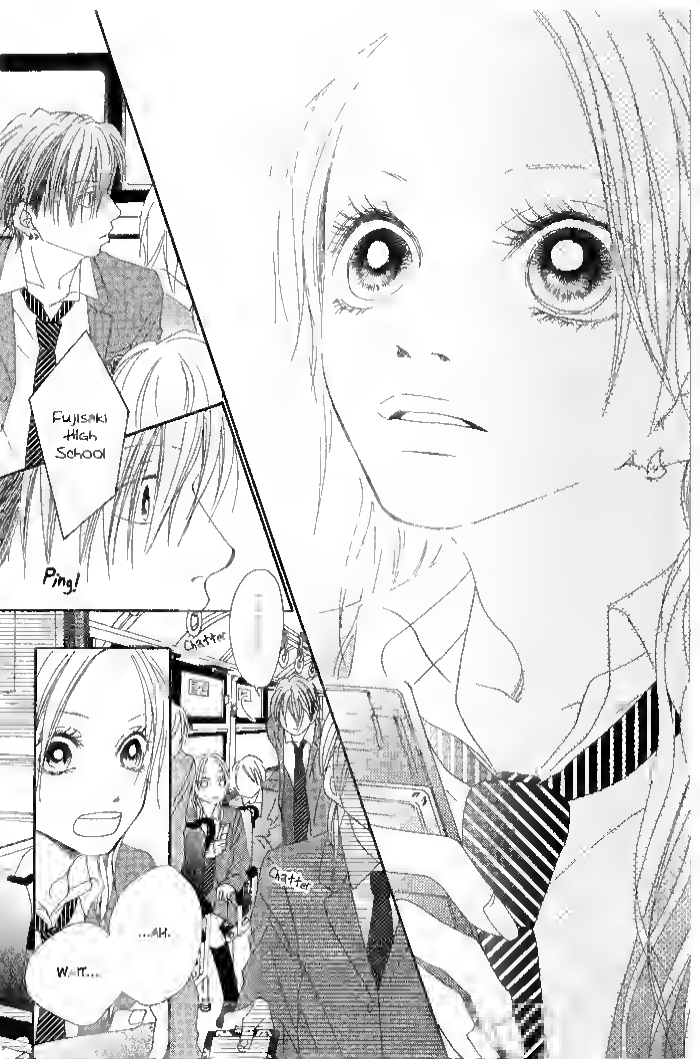
IT HELPS.
AH YEAH
IT WAS A WASTE HE GOT ANGRY INSTEAD!
I guess it's fine.
HOW WAS THE PRESENT YOU GAVE?
YOUR BOYFRIEND MUST HAVE BEEN HAPPY!
.....?

BUT IT WAS PAINFUL
LET'S SWITCH
I'm fine here.
EH?
YOU CAN HAVE THE SEAT
DON'T MIND ME.
HEY. CAN I HAVE YOUR MAIL ADDRESS?
AH
SURE

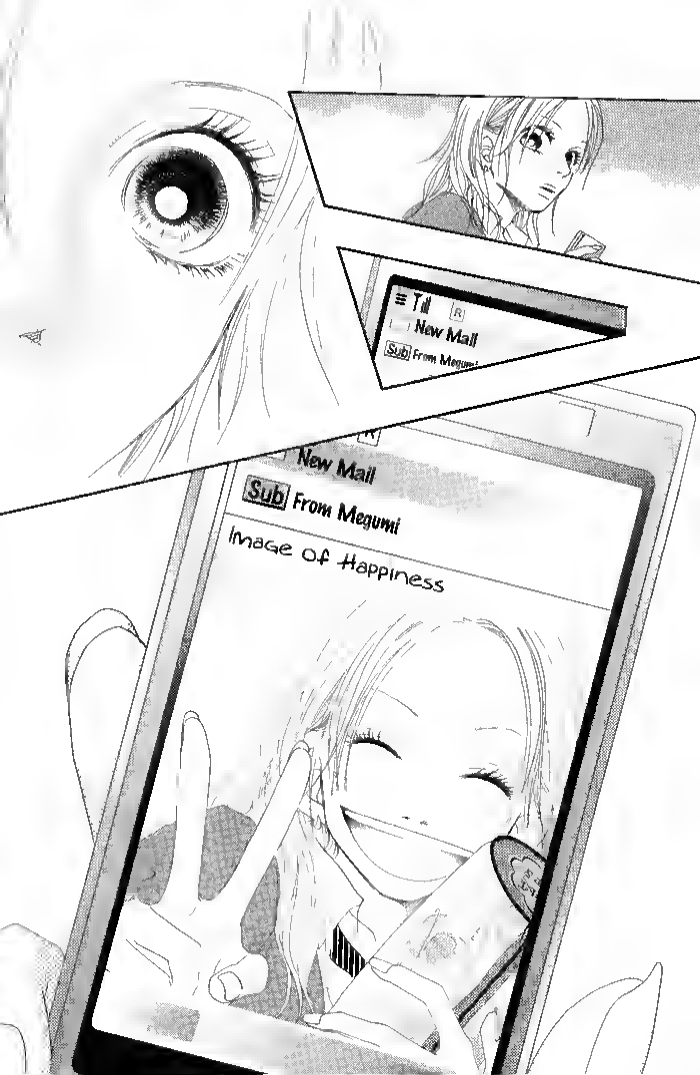
Address Book
Saving Number
Beep
Beep
YOUR BOYFRIEND
HE'S STUBBORN?
YES
HE THINKS HE'S ALWAYS RIGHT!
Ah-Hah-Hah...
I THINK IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP BOTH OF YOU ARE STUBBORN
LAST SUMMER
I HAD TO TAKE SOME EXTRA CLASSES
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A REALLY HOT DAY, I SAW HIM RUNNING AROUND

I ALSO SAW YOU
YOU WERE JUST SITTING THERE
I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU WOULD BE DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT, BUT—
I THOUGHT IT WAS REALLY ADMIRABLE
WHAT DO YOU CALL, SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
IT'S A TWO PERSON HAPPINESS

Address Book
Adding Contact
Saved
NO MATTER WHAT YOU SHOULD GIVE IT TO HIM
IT WILL GIVE YOU A SENSE OF HAPPINESS


Fujisaki High School
Ping!
Chatter
Chatter
...AH.
WAIT...

入口
MEGUMI
Hey!
Morning!
Oi
Chatter
Chatter
Ping!


New Mail
Sub From Megumi
Image of Happiness

New Mail
Sub From Megumi
Image of Happiness
YUU....
SUKE!

SWEET POP'S
...UM...
THIS IS THE LAST ONE
I ALREADY ATE ALL THE REST
SO...

AH
HEH
Pfft!
THIS IS ENOUGH FOR ME

MEGUMI'S WORDS ARE ECHOING THROUGH MY HEAD.

17
chapter 01
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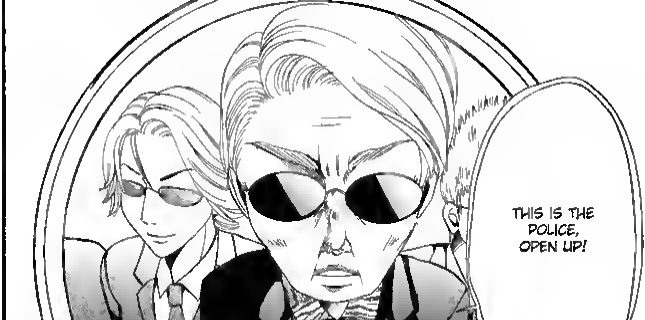
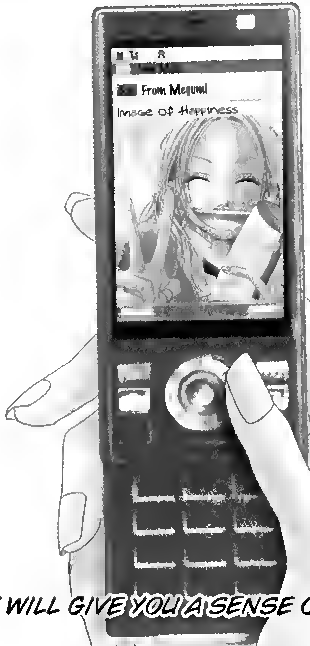


Don't want this to happen to you?

Help out our staff
http://shimmen.net

AH, THEY'RE ALL ORANGE. I HATE ORANGE
GROSS
YOU
HATE IT?
YOU
JERK!
Steal!
NOO MY CANDY!
I think I saw a grape one.

NO MATTER WHAT,
YOU SHOULD GIVE IT TO HIM.



IT WILL GIVE YOU A SENSE OF HAPPINESS.

Scene 2

IT'S A PICTURE OF ME
MEGUMI TOOK IT AND SENT IT TO ME
MEGUMI
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
Good Morning!
OI, OI! IS YUUSUKE GETTING JEALOUS?
THAT MEGUMI IS A REALLY NICE GUY!
HE'S REALLY COOL TO HANG OUT WITH
SO MUCH FUN!
He's really patient and gives good advice
this icky feeling

I wonder why Akira didn't introduce me to him before? We should all hang out
THAT'S GOOD
I'M GLAD YOU HAD FUN
.....
Snap!
Snap!
Snap!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
EH!?
I'M TRYING TO TAKE AN IMAGE OF HAPPINESS!
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT SO EARLY IN THE MORNING
AH, WAIT!
HEY, WAIT JUST A MINUTE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
What are they up to?
Akira
Mizuki
GOOD MORNING, AKIRA!

THE WEATHER IS NICE TODAY HUH?
HUH!?
WHAT THE —?
WHY ARE YOU SO EARLY TODAY?
YOU'RE SO PERSISTENT!
IT'S WEIRD!
YOU'RE BEING GLOOMY! I JUST WANT A PICTURE OF US!
Why are you so stubborn?
Step
Step
Step
GOOD MORNING YOU TWO

GOOD MORNING
I JUST DON'T GET WHY YOU'RE ACTING SO STRANGE THIS MORNING!
Weird
Uh... Kei quiet
WELL, YUUSUKE!?
WHY DO YOU SUDDENLY WANT TO TAKE A PICTURE? WHAT'S THE REASON?
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT TODAY!?
THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL!
BUT WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY!
That's why
SHIIKA DIDN'T YOU GET ALL THAT CANDY AS A PRESENT FOR KITAOKA-KUN?

UH...
I ATE IT ALL
AH... I GOT THIS ONE PIECE
See?
HE GOT ANGRY WHEN I GAVE HIM THE WHOLE THING
YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE SUCH A HUGE LOSS. THAT'S BAD, SHIIKA
You really think so?
EH!?
It can't be helped.
THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S BECAUSE SHIIKA IS SO IN LOVE WITH HER BOYFRIEND.
EH!? MEGUMI!?
Don't say things like that!
What are you thinking?
Hah, hah, hah

WERE YOU REALLY PLANNING TO GIVE JUST ONE CANDY TO KITAOKA-KUN?
BOING!
EH?
HH
NO ?
but it couldn't be helped
YOU MEAN BECAUSE HE DOESN'T LIKE YOU WASTING MONEY LIKE THAT?
WHY DON'T YOU TRY MAKING UP FOR IT WITH SOMETHING ELSE THEN?
Lots of ways
LIKE HOW?
WHAT DOES KITAOKA-KUN REALLY, REALLY WANT? SHOULDN'T YOU KNOW THAT?
*Yakiniku is grilled meat
Gyaru is a fashion sub culture where girls wear trendy clothes
SOMETHING YUUSUKE WOULD REALLY LIKE
YAKINIKU
GYARU
A WII
I also want one
AH.
MEGUMI

He used to skip it all the time.
Step
Step
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE ACTUALLY SEEN HIM RUNNING AROUND DURING GYM CLASS
...
What else.
SPORTS
BASEBALL
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A REALLY HOT DAY, I SAW HIM RUNNING AROUND.
YOU WERE JUST SITTING THERE.

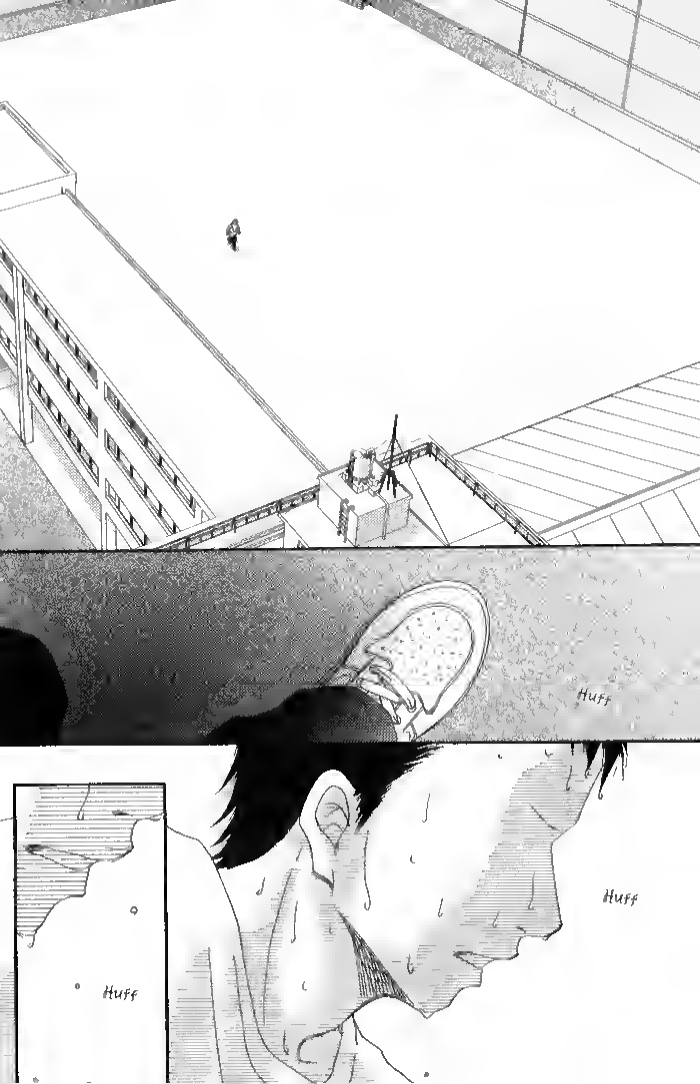
I THOUGHT IT WAS REALLY ADMIRABLE.
AH
That kind of activity
I GET IT
HM?
AH I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE
WHAT MADE YOU COME BACK AGAIN?
...gym class... running exercises
Yeah.

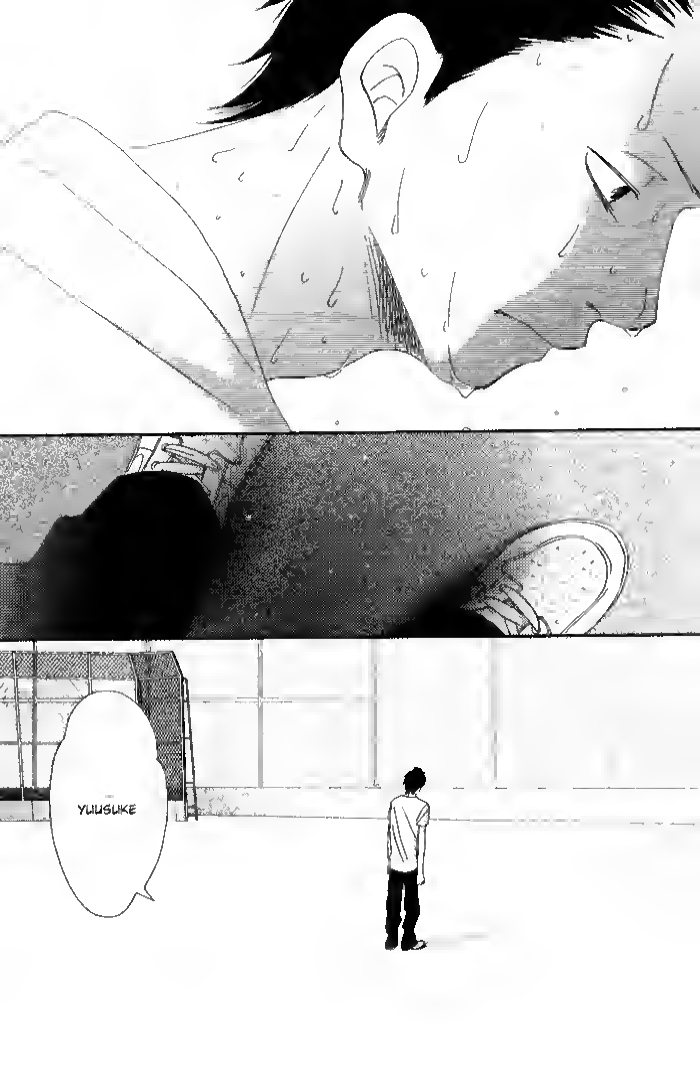
AHH! I HAVEN'T DONE THIS IN A LONG TIME!
I really like it
I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE THIS MORNING
Throw
YOUR NEW CLASS? WHY?
IT'S TIME FOR AN AFTERNOON NAP.
Sleep
Sleep
Thanks Sensei
EH?
RUNNING? YOU REALLY DID THAT?
SHOULDN'T YOU GO BACK NOW?
Pffft!
AS USUAL
HAVE YOU BEEN SKIPPING CLASSES AGAIN?
YEAH
IT'S REALLY FUN.

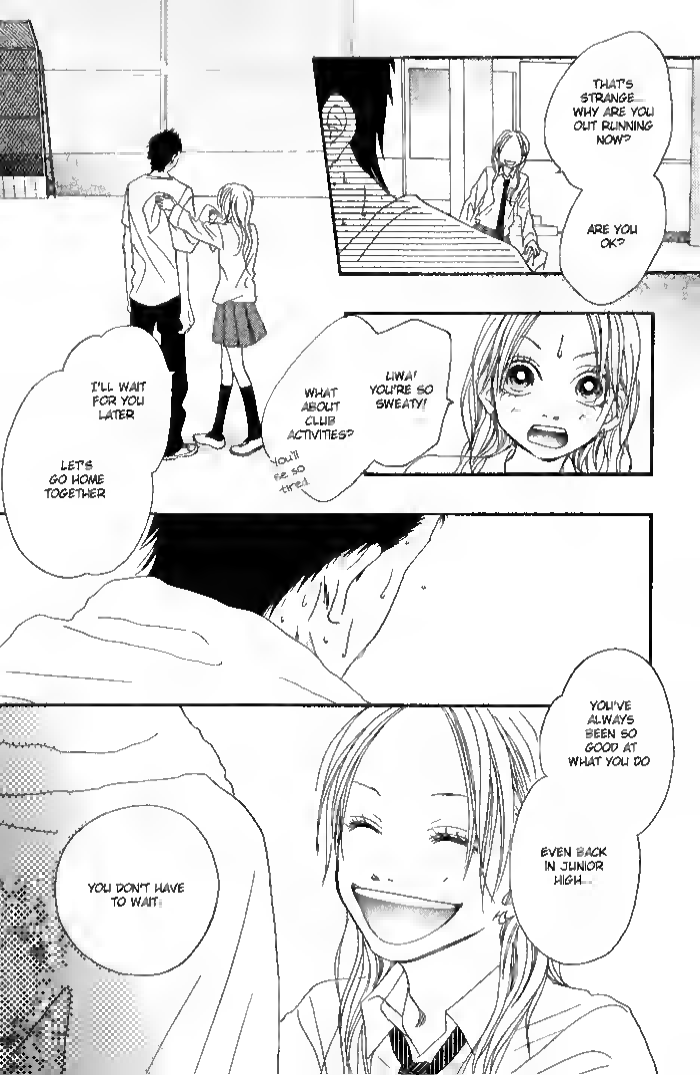
OH YOU'RE GOING TO KITAOKA-KUN?
I'M LEAVING RIGHT AFTER I EAT
I HAVEN'T SEEN MEGUMI LATELY!
What is he doing?
YUP! I WANT TO DO SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE HIM HAPPY
HA?
Why are you in such a good mood?
YUUSUKE WHY ARE YOU WEARING GYM CLOTHES?
It's fun
MY CLASS JUST ENDED
WELL,
LATELY, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO RUN AROUND MUCH
EH? WHY DON'T YOU JUST RUN DURING CLUB ACTIVITIES?
EH!?
YOU'RE GOING TO RUN AGAIN!?
That's unbelievable!
PLUS I PLAN TO RUN AROUND SOME MORE

HM?
SHOULD I DO THAT INSTEAD?
Run during club activities?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
Sorry to break it to you
THERE AREN'T ANY TODAY
SERIOUSLY? LUCKY!
Nice save!
YOU LOOK SO GLOOMY
EVEN WHEN EVERYONE'S SAYING THAT YOU'RE GETTING A LOT BETTER
WHY DON'T YOU JUST PRACTICE ALONE?
EH? YEAH! That's a good idea
PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT I'M GETTING BETTER?
You guys talk about something like that?
AH IT'S JUST THAT I'M REALLY AIMING FOR KOUSHIEN
I'M HOPING TO CATCH THE ATTENTION OF SOME TALENT SCOUTS
NO WAY...
IS THAT WHAT YOU WROTE DOWN ON YOUR CAREER GUIDANCE SURVEY?

Chatter
Chatter
YUUSUKE?
OR ARE YOU GETTING A JOB?
Where is he?


Huff
Huff
Huff


YUUSUKE

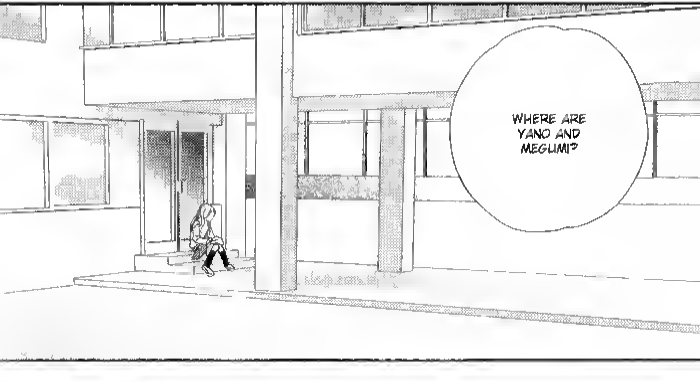

THAT'S STRANGE... WHY ARE YOU OUT RUNNING NOW?
ARE YOU OK?
LIWA! YOU'RE SO SWEATY!
WHAT ABOUT CLUB ACTIVITIES?
You'll be so tired
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU LATER
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SO GOOD AT WHAT YOU DO
EVEN BACK IN JUNIOR HIGH...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT!

AH
TOMORROW THEN?
TOMORROW
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN TRAINING EVERY DAY?
AH IT'S FOR KOUSHIEN!
IT'S YOUR LAST YEAR
IT'S WHAT I WANT TO PUT AS MY COURSE OF ACTION ON THAT GUIDANCE SHEET

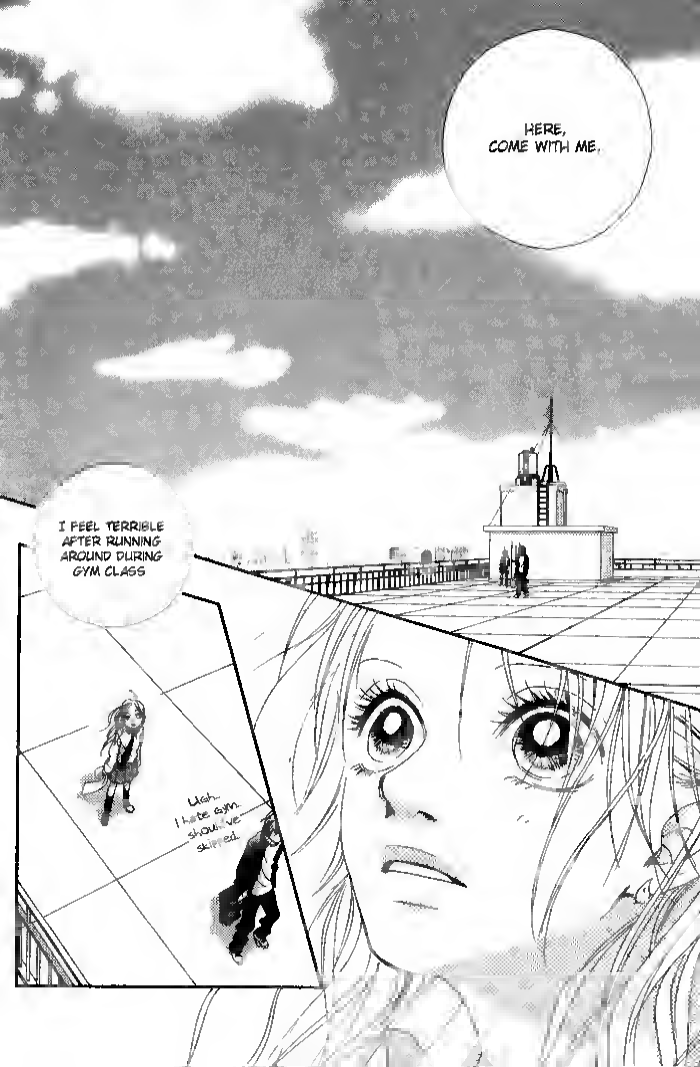
IT'S MY DREAM
HEY... GET UP, GET UP, GET UP.
UH
YOUR NAP IS OVER
Bang!
YEAH HURRY AND GET UP
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO STUDY

Shut
MY EYES
AH
SHIIKA'S BOYFRIEND

YANO?
YANO SHIIKA?
IS YANO HERE?
MORITA?
HERE.


WHERE ARE YANO AND MEGUMI?

IF YOU STAY IN A PLACE LIKE THAT, A TEACHER'S GOING TO FIND YOU.


HERE, COME WITH ME.
I FEEL TERRIBLE AFTER RUNNING AROUND DURING GYM CLASS
Ugh. I hate gym. Should've skipped.

THE WEATHER IS REALLY GOOD TODAY IT'S NO TIME TO BE STUCK IN A ROOM DOING MATH
Ah, I'm staying in this spot
Liwa!
WHAT A GUY
IT'S OUR SECRET

AHH I WAS IN CLASS 1
I WAS IN CLASS 9
HUH?
SHIIKA. WHAT CLASS WERE YOU IN DURING FIRST YEAR?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR BOYFRIEND?
7
Hey!
SO YOU WEREN'T IN THE SAME CLASS
...YEAH.
I HAD SOME TROUBLE STUDYING
I'm really not that smart
DID YOU GET INTO A LOT OF ARGUMENTS?

Hah, hah,
CHAL-LENGE
NOT BEING IN THE SAME CLASS MUST HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT YOU WOULDN'T SEE EACH OTHER MUCH AND THEN HAVE MISUNDER-STANDINGS
BUT GETTING PAST ALL THAT PROBABLY MADE YOU HAPPY DIDN'T IT?
YES
BUT EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT IT'S JUST NATURAL TO GET THROUGH SOMETHING LIKE THAT

BUT THEN ...
HIS DREAM
HE WANTS TO BECOME A PRO THROUGH KOUSHIEN
BUT WHAT DO I DO AFTER HE LEAVES?
IT'S SO SELFISH OF ME THAT I ACTUALLY DON'T WANT HIM TO REACH IT...
WHY AM I SHOWING THIS SIDE OF MYSELF?

IT'S SHAMEFUL
THAT I ACTUALLY HAVE THESE THOUGHTS

IT'S BEEN FOUR YEARS ...
I WANT TO BELIEVE THAT I CAN BE HAPPY, EVEN IF THAT HAPPENS.
BUT I THINK I CAN ONLY BE LIKE THAT WHEN I'M CLOSE TO HIM

IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF

Plop
I'LL GET UP ONCE THE BELL RINGS
Wipe Wipe

WHAT IS IT?
THAT TUNE?
HM?
THE TITLE'S "HAPPINESS"

♫
YOU'RE SUCH A CHEERFUL PERSON MEGUMI

Z
Z
Z
Z
Z
Z

17

chapter 02

scanner: raelous

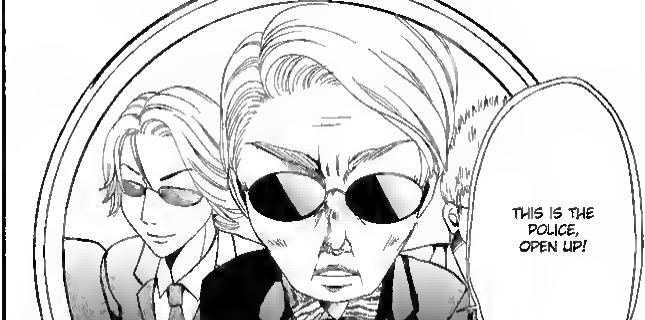
translator: raelous

proofreader: sanctity

editor: silvermoon

qear: raelous

shinnen.net



Don't want this to happen to you?

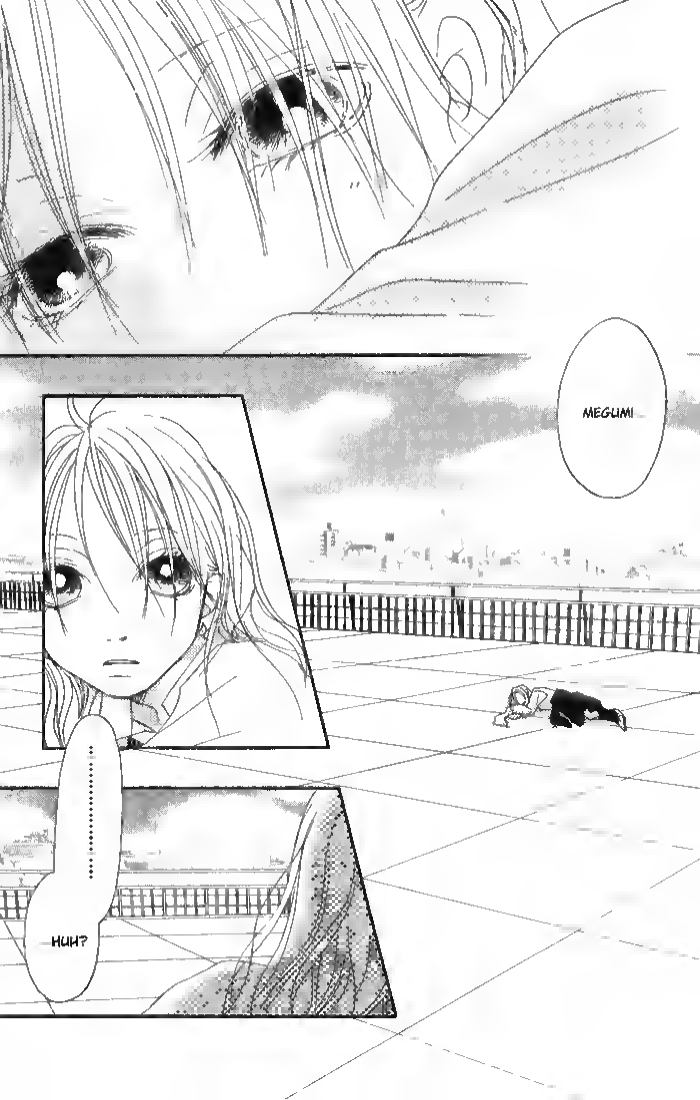
Help out our staff
http://shimmen.net

Scene 3

"I WANT TO BELIEVE THAT I CAN BE HAPPY EVEN NOW."

"BUT I THINK I CAN ONLY BE THAT WAY IF I'M CLOSE TO HIM."

"IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF."


MEGUMI
.....
HUH?

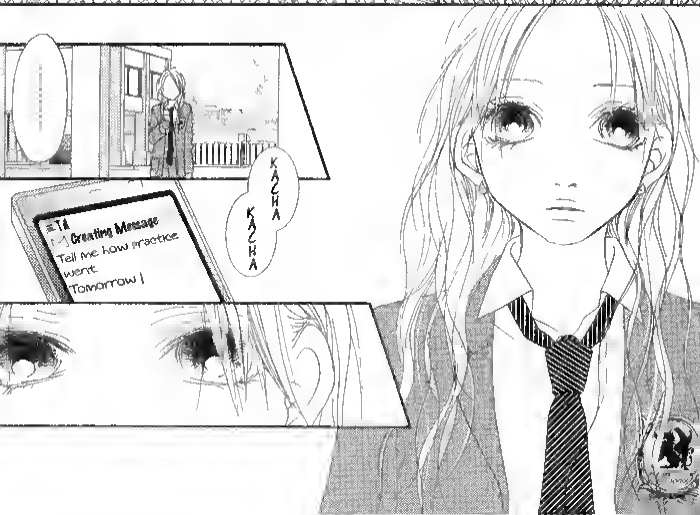
...MEGUMI?
MEGUMI...
DROPS
MEGUMI
AH,
SHIIKA.
NAME

Chatter
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? WHERE DID YOU WANDER OFF TO?
YOU MISSED HOMEROOM
Chatter
EH? NO WAY!
So you really were
IF YOU WERE WITH HIM, WHERE IS HE?
MEGUMI?
EH?
ISN'T HE BACK YET?
HE'S NOT BACK YET
I SENT HIM A MESSAGE BUT HE HASN'T REPLIED
WHERE THE HECK WERE YOU TWO?
"IT'S OUR SECRET."

ANNOYED
Where were we? What do I do? Should I tell her? Megumi said it was a secret but Akira's asking...
JUST SPIT IT OUT
AH...
WELL...
Yes!
WE WERE RESTING
I THOUGHT SO
KITAOKA-KUN SEEMED LIKE HE WAS IN A REALLY BAD MOOD. DO YOU KNOW WHY?
KOUSHIEN?
PRO?
"IT'S MY DREAM."

I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM, SO I DON'T KNOW I WONDER HOW HE'S FEELING
IT'S A MYSTERY
I should calm down first
EVEN IF I SEE HIM, I CAN'T DO A THING
BUT, I GUESS

HE KNOWS WHAT HIS DREAM IS.



NEW MAIL
From Megumi
Image of Happiness
KACHI
Message cancelled
Editor has been closed.
INBOX
Messages
Chat
Deleted
KACHI
KACHI
Sub NEW MAIL

Creating Message
Subject About Yuusuke
I'm going to be brave about it and I won't let him know how I feel
I'll try to look exactly as I was in the ✨Image of happiness✨
That's how it will go
Create Message
KACHI
KACHI
KACHI
About Yuusuke
KACHI
Send Message

SFX: BAAA

KAGAYAMA! DO YOU WANT TO RUN SOME LAPS!?
YES!
BUT I DON'T FEEL WELL
Since this morning
Coach
Uwaa!
HEY
WAKE UP! THE BALL MIGHT COME
CLANG
OI!
AW!
HE HIT IT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
I'M SORRY!

SENSEI,
DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE RAIN?
HEY. FIRST YEAR. DON'T MAKE EXCUSES!
I'M SORRY!
MAA, MAA, YUUSUKE.
DON'T MIND IT!
Just now you called him first year
I can't remember his name.

HM?
HMM, WE SHOULD PACK UP
SUPER-VISOR
EH?
SUPER-VISOR? YOU MEAN ME? WHAT IS IT KITAOKA?
You're the only one who calls me that
NOBODY'S USING THE GYM, RIGHT?
IT WOULD BE A BIT MORE CROWDED THAN USUAL BUT
CAN'T WE MOVE THERE IN-STEAD?
YOU TROUBLE YOURSELF TOO MUCH!
HEY FIRST YEAR IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU!
I'M hungry.
SEE YOU!

YOU
WHY DO YOU WANT TO PLAY BASE-BALL ?
WHY
CLENCH
IS IT TO FOOL AROUND?
YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE ANY FIGHT-ING SPIRIT!
THIS IS ALREADY MY THIRD YEAR.
DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S MY LAST CHANCE, OR I'LL FAIL?
YOU'RE TOO SERIOUS

IT'S ALSO MY FINAL YEAR, AND THAT'S WHY I'M TRYING TO ENJOY IT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE
drop
drop
YOU PUT TOO MUCH PRESSURE ON US.
YUUSUKE YOU...
WITHOUT MEANING TO...

When do you think the rain will stop?
Hey there.
Chatter
Chatter
.....
STILL NO REPLY

HI AKIRA! ARE YOU WAITING FOR MEGUMI?
I SENT HIM A MESSAGE BUT HE HASN'T REPLIED
He's ignoring me...huh?
I THOUGHT HE WOULD REPLY
OH WELL, I GUESS HE HASN'T CHANGED
HE WAS ACTUALLY EARLY THIS MORNING SO I THOUGHT HE DID

Haven't seen him since class room
KITAOKA-KUN'S LATE HUH?
EH?
YUUSUKE'S NOT BACK YET?
YEAH...
ISN'T PRACTICE DONE YET?
AAH... MAYBE HE'S SULKING IN OUR CLUB-ROOM?
AH?
It's nothing.
WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL IT MAKE?
HUH?
WHAT HAP-PENED?
YOU'RE HIS GIRLFRIEND, SHOULDN'T YOU TALK TO HIM?

ZAAA
PIPIPIPI
PI
PIPIPIPI
PIPIPI
PIPIPI

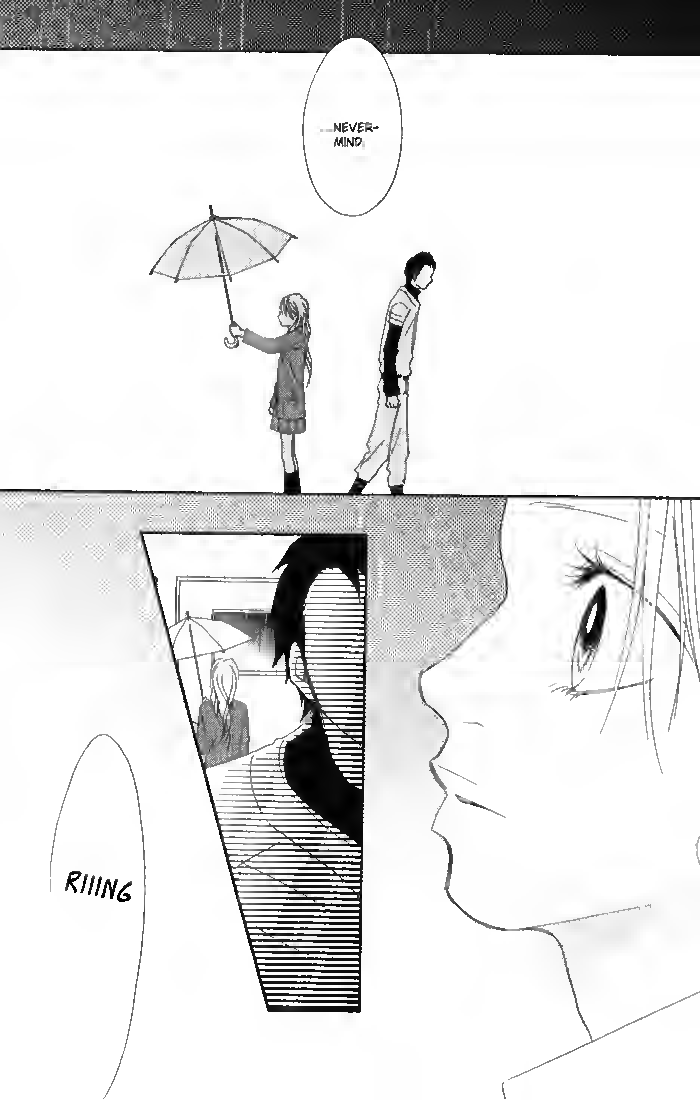
New Message
From Akira
Subject
Hey!
Where are you?
Come quickly
.....
Zaaaa
KACHI
KACHI
.....
Yumma
2 Akira
3 Akira
4 Shiika
5 Akira
Akira
KACHI

About Yuusuke
I'm going to be brave about it and I won't let him know how I feel
I'll try to look exactly as I was in the image of happiness
It's how it will go
ZAAAAAAAAAAAAA
Baseball Club

KNOCK
KNOCK
.....
OPENS
AH

WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU LOOK SO TIRED
I'M CONFUSED ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD DO

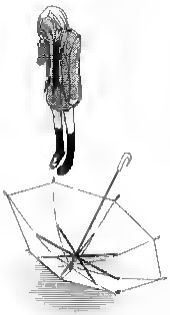

...NEVER-
MIND.
RIIING

RIIING
RIIING
0905
RI...
---SHIIKA?

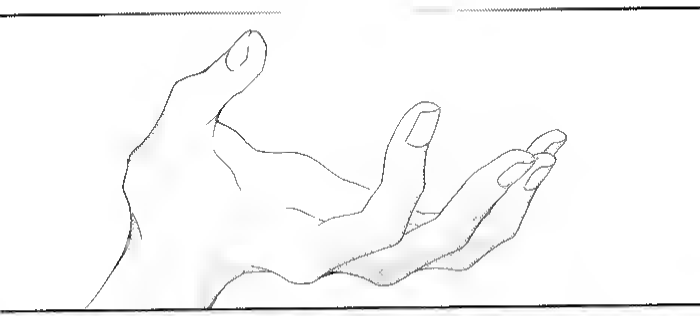
...MEGUMI...

MEGUMI
YUU SUKE...
HE'S UPSET...
SOMETHING HAPPENED DURING CLUB ACTIVITIES...
...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...

HE WON'T TELL ME



HOW DO I HELP HIM WHEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?



WELL,
DOES A GIRL-FRIEND ALWAYS HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING?
SAYING SOME-THING AND NOTHING AT ALL
JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO HELP HIM

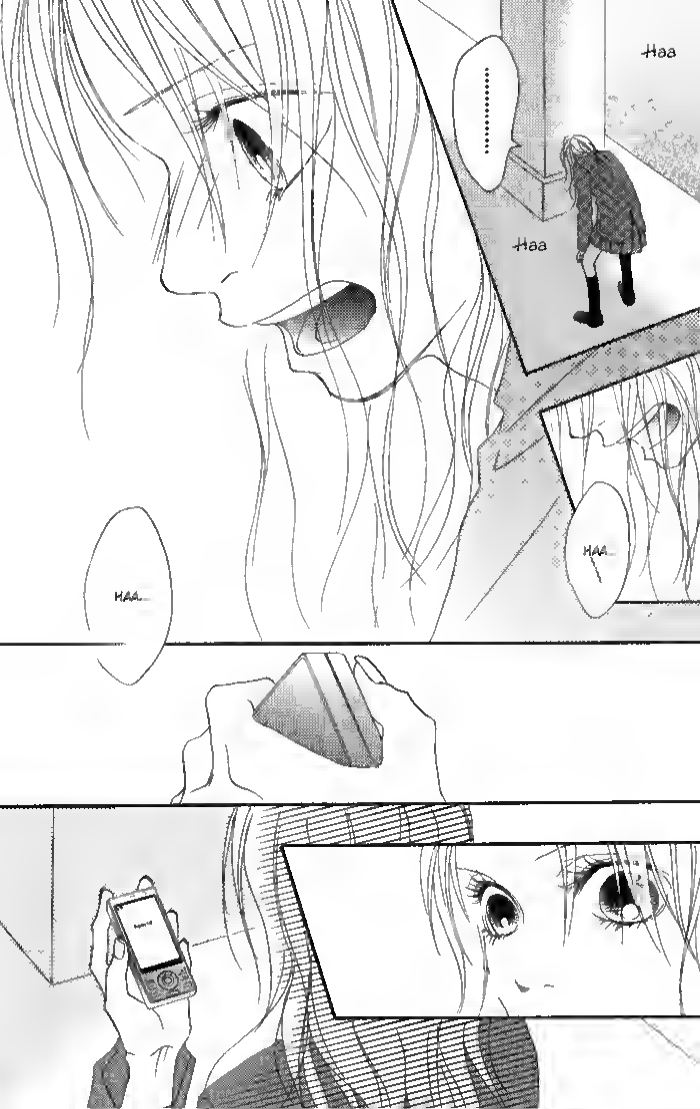
Bacha

HIT
WHY?
WHY IS IT...
OI!
...!

YOUR TEAM-MATES
YOUR COACH, YOUR FRIENDS
YOU TELL THEM EVERY-THING
AL-WAYS
YOU'RE ALWAYS IN SCHOOL, PRACTICING! IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT BASEBALL!

...DO YOU...
EVEN REALIZE I'M STILL HERE...?

.....
GOOD-BYE!
STEP
STEP
HAA...
STEP
HAA
STEP


Haa
.....
Haa
HAA
HAA

Ongoing Call
AH...
HE...
HEL-LO?
Gaaasp
UHM...
SO...
UHH...
SORRY...
I HEARD IT.
WHAT YOU SAID.

YOU TOLD HIM CLEARLY I'M GLAD
CLANK

17

chapter 03

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proofreader: sanctity

cleaner: ayme

typesetter: jverreuil

qcer: raelous

shinnen.net

WHAT DO YOU MEAN
THERE'S NO MORE TO READ?
BUT I WAS JUST GETTING INTO IT!
I DEMAND THAT YOU HURRY UP AND RELEASE MORE!
COME ON
DON'T YOU GUYS JUST SLAP A BUNCH OF TEXT ONTO A PAGE?
I bet they're just lazy.
Hmm
http://shinmon.net
NO. THERE'S TRANSLATING, CLEANING, EDITING, TYPESETTING, QUALITY CHECKING, ETC.
It's a lot of work.
BUT WE'RE SHORT ON STAFF. IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO GET SCANS OUT ANY QUICKER.
I WOULD LIKE TO
What??
That blows.
Mutter Mutter
Optimistic
I KNOW!
IF WE CAN GET MORE PEOPLE TO HELP, THEN ALL OF US CAN ENJOY FASTER SCANS.
YEAH! I'M GOING TO APPLY NOW!
And you should too!
IT TAKES TIME?

Scene 4

YOU ACTUALLY SAID THAT IT'S ALWAYS BASE-BALL OVER YOU?
AWESOME! TO BE YOUNG!
HAHA!
DURING OUR FIRST YEAR WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER SECOND YEAR, HE GRADUALLY STARTED TO HANG OUT WITH HIS TEAM-MATES
BEFORE I KNEW IT, ALL HE EVER DID WAS PRAC-TICE!
AHH, YOU SAID IT VERY WELL.
REALLY, TO BE IN LOVE.

YOU LEFT SCHOOL SO EARLY.
DON'T MAKE A HABIT OUT OF IT
AH...
AKIRA AND THE TEACHER WERE REALLY LOOKING FOR YOU
AHH...
UHM...
THANK YOU SO MUCH.

"I HEARD IT."
"WHAT YOU SAID."

"YOU TOLD HIM CLEARLY. I'M GLAD."
Smile

"...YOUR TEAMMATES... YOUR COACH, YOUR FRIENDS..."
"YOU TELL THEM EVERYTHING... ALWAYS..."
"YOU'RE ALWAYS AT SCHOOL, PRACTICING! IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT BASEBALL!"
BASICALLY, YOU GOT INTO A FIGHT OVER NOTHING?
HUH?
YEAH I GUESS
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW!
STARE!!
SO HE CAN'T MAKE IT THIS SUNDAY?

I think he would have fun for today, too!
NO WAY, AKIRA .. YUUSUKE WOULD LOVE THIS...
THE DOME!?
I THOUGHT KITAOKA-KUN AND MEGUMI WOULD WANT TO GO
What do you think?
YOU TWO CAN USE THE TICKETS IF YOU WANT.
AH, I'LL SELL IT TO YOU.
Naturally
I see
.....

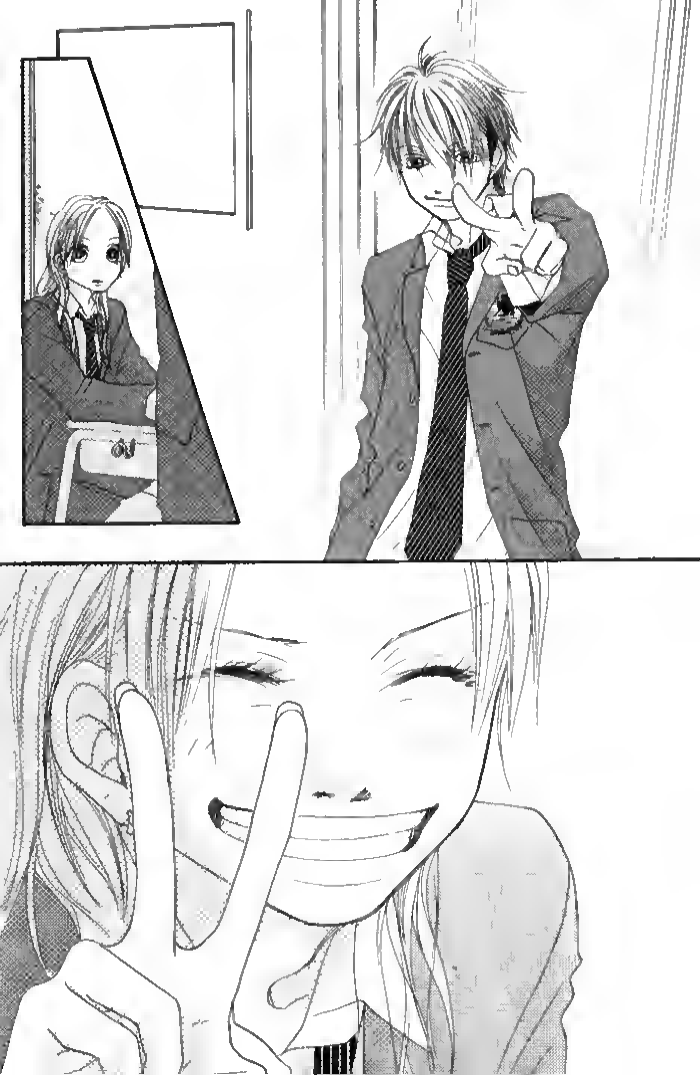
I CAN'T GO
YEAH ..
I'M SORRY, BUT RIGHT NOW..
I CAN'T ASK YUUSUKE MYSELF.
.....
PLEASE INVITE HIM, THOUGH.
sorry
YOU CAN JUST GO WITH MEGUMI!
a date!
a date!
Wouldn't it be awesome, to be able to go on a date with him?
MEGUMI, HUH?
Well
HE'D PROBABLY RATHER SLEEP
HAHA
HE DOESN'T EVEN REPLY TO MAIL
Clench
IT'S USELESS
HAHA
HAHA
HAHA
HE'S NOT EVEN HERE YET
HAHA
..AH..
MAYBE IF I ASK OVER AND OVER FOR YOU, HE'LL AGREE TO GO

EH..
..ARE YOU IN TOUCH WITH HIM?
Enters

AGAIN, YOU
LEFT SOMETHING BEHIND
HOW MANY TIMES DO I NEED TO TELL YOU TO BE MORE ATTENTIVE?
UMBRELLA
IT'S JUST COMMON COURTESY TO CLEAN AFTER YOURSELF
PFFT
Akaba
JUST THE OTHER DAY, SHE FORGOT HER NOTEBOOK!
YEAH— AND THE OTHER DAY, SHE LEFT HER PURSE ON THE BUS
YU..
YUUSUKE!
Don't wanna up on me!

Hahaha What do you think? It's probably some serious illness
Yeah, you could say that
We should tell a doctor about it
Ahaha
We should do something about it quickly...
It's not true! I didn't leave my purse on the bus!
Ahh, really?
Ahh... uhm... yeah...
Tell you about me more carefully

Rehabilitation!?
Maybe they have rehabilitation centers for this kind of thing
You should go for it!
Hahaha
...AH
MEGU



...
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS LAUGHING AT?
AH! MEGUMI!
THERE YOU ARE!
WELL, YEAH.
GOOD MORNING, MEGUMI!

MEGUMI!
YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF CLASSROOM CLEANUP TODAY!
I GOT IT, SENSEI!
You're too much!
Aw, c'mon, Yuu!
Don't skip out!
Yuu...
YUUISUKE, WHAT TIME ARE YOU GOING HOME?

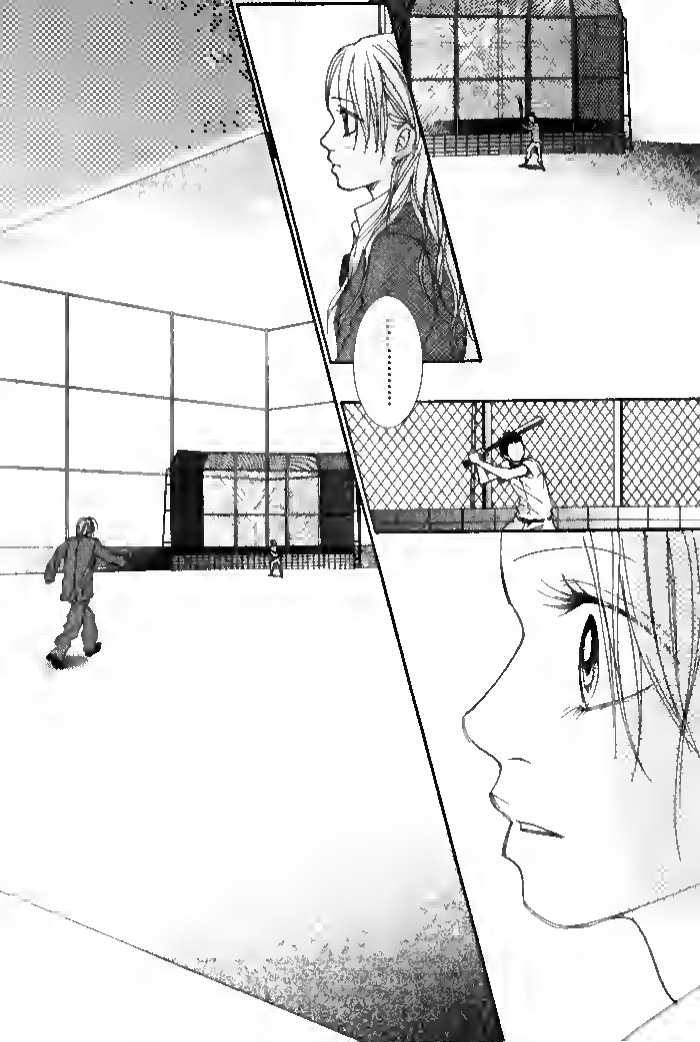
Chatter
Chatter
DO YOU HAVE PRACTICE TODAY...?
WE COULD GO HOME TOGETHER...
...
...BUT
I HAVE SOME THINGS TO DO...
Batting practice
AH
I SEE! YEAH!
I UNDERSTAND.
BATTING PRACTICE!

Shaa
Chatter
Chatter
Hee...

.....
AHH...
WE'RE LUCKY WE DON'T HAVE PRACTICE TODAY!
"...YOU LOOK SO TIRED..."
"...I'M CONFUSED ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD DO..."

"...IT'S NOTHING."
...ME...
GUMI!
HN?
What is it? Do you want to help?
HERE
IT'S FOR THIS SUNDAY
WE HAD SOME EXTRA TICKETS AT HOME. SO...
What do you think?

HUH?
AH...
I THINK SHIIKA WANTED TO ASK HIM.
BUT SHE CAN'T.
BUT THEY SEEM OKAY NOW...
MEGUMI, ARE YOU STILL LISTENING?
Why'd you suddenly become quiet?
THAT'S RIGHT! KITAOKA-KUN AND SHIIKA WERE SUPPOSED TO COME BUT SHIIKA SAID SOMETHING ABOUT NOT BEING ABLE TO ASK HIM
We can go!
BASEBALL...?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
...NOT BEING ABLE TO...



Throws

Gaaaan
HUH?
WHAT'S WITH THAT REACTION!?
YOU! CAME OUT OF NOWHERE!
I WONDER WHAT WENT WRONG
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING!?
AH I JUST THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MORE FUN WITH TWO PEOPLE

Boing
I'VE NEVER REALLY TRIED PLAYING BASEBALL SERIOUSLY
IT'S PROBABLY RELAXING
Honestly speaking
YOU'RE REALLY SAYING THAT?
AFTER WHAT YOU JUST DID
OI!
Don't do things like that!
ARE YOU TRYING TO HIT MY HEAD!?
Quit it!
Damn
BUT, THEN
IT'S MY FIRST TIME TRYING TO PLAY A GAME OF CATCH WITH SOMEONE ELSE
Go easy on me!

HUH?
Clang
WHERE ARE YOU GOING??
Step

pan
AIM HERE.

Where are you trying to throw it?
Hy...
First of all I'm asking you to throw it over here!

It's a difficult target!
Heal? Difficult?
Yeah, it's difficult!

Catch
Yeaaaah!
...OH...?
I DID IT!
Awesome! Wasn't that awesome?
OKAY, THEN!
IT'S TIME FOR ME TO HEAD HOME!
AHH THAT'S GOOD
HUH? HHH
That was fast

I knew it you just had nothing else to do...
SO SORRY FOR INTRUDING!
Haa
Haa
Haa
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S FOR DISTURBING YOU.
Haa
YOU'RE GOING?
I BROUGHT SOME POCARI...
POCARI...
POCARI SWEAT

POCARI!
...THANKS, SHIIKA!
Thanks a lot!
BYE-BYE.

Adios!
...BYE-BYE.
I'M NOT DONE YET...
Za

I APOLOGIZE
SORRY.
AH
YEAH
AH
YEAH, I GET IT SORRY.
AH
YUUSUKE, YOUR POCARI
I BROUGHT YOU POCARI

THIS WEEKEND...
DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT?
WE HAVEN'T GONE OUT LATELY
IT'S A BASEBALL GAME...
GATE
GATE

I GOT IT FROM THAT GUY...
...YEAH.
LET'S GO.

GOING TOGETHER
THAT WOULD MAKE ME HAPPY.

IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS
2
HE DID THIS ON PURPOSE.

17
chapter 04
scanner: raelous
translator: raelous
proofreader: sanctity
cleaner: ayme
typesetter: amoeamoeamemme
qcer: raelous
skinner.net

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